

VIA: ATR
(SPECIFY AIR OR SEA POUCH)

DISPATCH NO. SGAA- 15892

SECRET
CLASSIFICATION

31 MAY 1955

TO : Chief, SE

DATE: _____

FROM : C

SUBJECT: GENERAL— Operational

SPECIFIC— OBSIDIOUS Mission Plan, June 1955

- REF: 1. SGAA 13850, 29 January 1955
2. SGAW 8367, 14 February 1955
3. SGAW 8660, 14 March 1955
4. SGAW 8926, 8 April 1955

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHOD EXEMPTION 3828
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

- Action Requested: 1. Headquarters' comments and cabled approval for mounting mission.
2. Cable approval to issue gold to team.

Synopsis:

1. RNDOLLAR and AIRBLOWN committed to contact AIPIGEON again.
2. Mission objective to determine status of AIPIGEON and establish communication.
3. Infiltration scheduled dark moon period 17 - 21 June.
4. Border crossing and internal travel outlined.

Background:

1. On 29 May 1954, the FRIDAY team made its first infiltration of the OBSIDIOUS Operation. The team failed to contact the principal agent, AIPIGEON, although two attempts were made. In the first attempt, AIPIGEON was absent from his home and the team was discovered by residents of the area on their second attempt. On 23 July, the two man team infiltrated again, contacted and recruited AIPIGEON, established a dead drop, and exfiltrated without incident. The third infiltration in December 1954, with AIRBLOWN as an eleventh hour replacement for AIRBRED, was made for the purpose of servicing the dead drop. This penetration was a failure as nothing was found at the dead drop.

2. Having arrived at the conclusion as a result of cross interrogation, careful debriefing and LOFLUTTER, that we have established the accuracy of the December infiltration report by the OBSIDIOUS team, we are proceeding with plans

Removed from Project *Obsidious*

CS Classification: *None*

JOB # *63-697/18*

Box: *7* Fold: *#*

DESENSITIZED

per GSN (2-3)

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to commit RNDOLLAR and AIRBLOWN to contact AIPIGEON again. Their purpose will be to determine AIPIGEON's status and once again establish firm, effective communications. We are convinced RNDOLLAR is not responsible for the absence of the container at the dead drop and that he fully desires to see his efforts succeed. The fact that RNDOLLAR is willing to attempt another penetration speaks well for his sincerity and his confidence that AIPIGEON can produce.

3. The only way to solve the mystery of the missing container is to contact AIPIGEON and determine if he had changed his mind or merely had become confused. Also, we cannot overlook the possibility that AIPIGEON is not at fault since he may have been killed or captured.

4. Certainly the time and risk necessary to mount this mission warrants the attempt. The significant factors are RNDOLLAR's willingness and the participation of AIRBLOWN whom we feel to be completely aligned with us and not unduly influenced or controlled by RNDOLLAR.

Mission Objective:

5. The objectives of this mission will be:

a. To determine the status of AIPIGEON and his willingness to continue to work on our behalf.

b. Establish effective, secure and simple communications with AIPIGEON.

Prior to approaching and contacting AIPIGEON, the dead drop site will be inspected. The remote possibility that it will have been serviced might make it unnecessary to run the risk of contacting AIPIGEON.

Personnel:

6. RNDOLLAR, the team leader, has more than demonstrated his courage and ability. His intelligence and initiative has been previously reported. His overconfidence and impetuosity has been remarkably curbed or tempered. There is no doubt his recent missions have gone a long way toward accomplishing this fact. His sense of security, though improved, cannot be considered much better than most agents.

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7. On 6 May, RNDOLLAR, while in Athens, complained to [] that he was not feeling well. [] was brought to the DIG and examined RNDOLLAR thoroughly. He diagnosed RNDOLLAR's ailment as hemorrhoids and recommended an operation to correct the condition. With the approval of [] RNDOLLAR was sent back to Kalamai to have the operation performed at a clinic. The operation is minor and will require about 6 days hospitalization. [] assured [] that RNDOLLAR would be completely recovered by 1 June for any activity we had in mind for him.

8. AIRBLOWN, the second member of the team, responded remarkably when requested to participate in the last infiltration as a last minute replacement. His participation despite a minimum of preparation was highly commendable. He is no youngster and his mature, seasoned approach to problems tends to balance the team as a whole. Although he is 42 years old he has the stamina and agility of a much younger man.

9. AIPIGEON, the principal agent, is a half-brother of RNDOLLAR and resides in Konispol. He is 45 years old and married to a very courageous and trustworthy woman. On 24 and 25 July AIPIGEON was contacted, recruited and briefed by RNDOLLAR.

Training:

10. The team is scheduled to begin training on 3 June and will receive two full weeks emphasizing the following subjects:

- a. Physical conditioning (water discipline)
- b. Weapons
- c. Clandestine Activities

Both team members have previously had considerable training and most subjects will be in the nature of review or refresher courses. The selection and use of dead drops will be stressed.

11. The facilities of OBATLANTIS and the M/V POSEIDON will be utilized for this training. The training will be conducted by [] and []. Prior to departing for OBATLANTIS, both team members will be given a physical examination by our doctor.

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Itinerary and Schedule:

12. Target Date; The dark period for the June moon phase reaches its maximum in the period of 17 - 21 June. In this period the useable hours of darkness average nine per night. In our discussions with RNDOLLAR we informed him we had selected these dates and asked his opinion on them. He stated he had no objections to these dates and could not think of any operational factors that would affect them.

13. Border Crossing; The team will be conducted to a point near the border known as AYIOI THEODOROI (R406540) and from that point will proceed alone. Heading in a NE direction they will cross the border at R405546 approximately thirty minutes after leaving their escort. This crossing is naturally subject to the latest border intelligence available prior to the infiltration.

14. Internal Travel; After crossing the border the team will continue North until they arrive at a river bed at R406565. Crossing the river bed they will continue to a tomb located at R407571. Approximately five hours after leaving their escort the team should reach a mule track located at R408572. Heading East and counting three telephone poles, they will arrive at the dead drop site. After determining that the drop was not made they would then continue on to contact AIPIGEON. From the dead drop site, passing a spring at R410575, the team will proceed to a hideout located at R436565 where they will spend the day.

15. Contact; Leaving the hideout after dark, the team will go to a point outside Konispol known as PIKU SHURIT. At this point they will cache all equipment except weapons and canteens. Following a path parallel to the main road they will approach AIPIGEON's house. AIRBLOWN will be posted at the gate to AIPIGEON's yard while RNDOLLAR proceeds to the house. Danger signals will be used from RNDOLLAR to AIRBLOWN and from AIRBLOWN to RNDOLLAR. They will attempt to complete all tasks with one contact. A second contact will not be arranged unless absolutely necessary. Having completed the contact, the team will retrace their steps, retrieve their equipment and return to the hideout at R436565 to spend the daylight hours. The team will return to Greece at nightfall, using a slightly different route than the infiltration, and crossing the border at R404545.

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Mission Tasks:

16. The primary tasks of the team on this mission will be:
 - a. Determine the status of AIPIGEON.
 - b. Confirm AIPIGEON's contacts and their accessibility to Tirana.
 - c. Improve dead drop link.
 - d. Determine the feasibility of an accomodation address for emergency communication.
 - e. Establish recognition signal for reserve communications.

If it is discovered that the dead drop has been serviced, a and b may be automatically answered. Items c, d and e can be handled via the dead drop or future contact. If it proves necessary to contact AIPIGEON, all five points will be resolved.

Communications:

17. In regard to emergency communications, the field believes the recommendation made in third reference and in SGAW 5805, 19 August 1954 are excellent and most feasible. The selection of an accomodation address in the United States appears to be most practicable. One of RNDOLLAR's primary tasks on this mission is to determine conditions making such communication with AIPIGEON possible in so far as security and his own position are involved.

18. The site and the mechanics of the present dead drop leave much to be desired. On this mission a new location will be selected and the mechanics involved will be stressed during training. In addition to the dead drop link and the emergency method of communication, a reserve method will be arranged whereby AIPIGEON could be approached and safely contacted by someone not known by him. This might prove necessary in the anticipation that RNDOLLAR may eventually retire.

Cover and Documentation:

19. The entire mission will be carried out "black" and documentation will not be supplied to the team. No ~~other~~ contacts will be made other than with AIPIGEON.

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Equipment:

20. The team will be outfitted in clothing as nearly resembling residents of the area as possible. Clothing will include the suit type jacket, civilian cap and black wool breeches. The boots, specially made in Athens, will also resemble those of the area and will not leave a trail identifiable as different from any resident of the area.

21. Weapons will include the Schmeisser machine pistol, grenades and Mauser pistol. The Schmeisser has proven to be the most versatile weapon for penetration operations, because of its effective fire-power and lightness. Most teams have finally been convinced of its superiority to a rifle for this type of work.

22. Food will be short-ration type and consist primarily of concentrated meals high in energy and vitamins. Included will be such items as chocolate, dextrose tablets, tinned meat, biscuits and fresh bread and cheese.

Security:

23. In para 4, second reference, Headquarters expressed concern over the security of AIRBRED. We are inclined to agree that AIRBRED decided to withdraw from the mission either because of "cold feet" or perhaps a falling out with RNDOLLAR. AIRBRED was not aware of AIKNAVE's disclosures about the first mission, therefore they could not have influenced his decision. In the short time the team was together before AIRBRED's refusal, no discord was evident. We in the field are inclined to feel it was more a matter of "cold feet." This inclination is strengthened by the recollection that AIRWISE, in dropping AIRBRED from the FIG team in 1954, reflected dubiously on AIRBRED's courage as demonstrated in the last skirmishes of the FIG team. AIRBRED's activities on Paros are under close surveillance and any suspicious actions are reported to us through BGCANTAR. Concerning the possibility of hard feelings resulting from the termination of AIRBRED, reference is made to para 9b of SGAA 13519, 10 January 1955. As further indication, on 8 May AIRBRED was called to Athens by this office to report to I.C.E.M. for emigration to Australia. In subsequent discussions, [] detected no resentment on AIRBRED's part about the termination. He is aware that we can and are assisting his departure for Australia.

24. Not wishing to evidence our continued interest in the Konispol area to AIKNAVE, we have avoided approaching him directly. Indirectly he was advised that serious consequences would follow if he continued to discuss his past work for the Americans. Since then there have been no indications of further disclosures by AIKNAVE.

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25. In reply to Headquarters' request in para 7 of third reference, the following information was obtained on Identity 1, the wife of AIPIGEON, from RNDOLLAR:

| | |
|----------------|-------------------------|
| Age | 42 years (date unknown) |
| Place of Birth | Konispol |
| Residence | Konispol |
| Occupation | Housewife |

In the past five years Subject has lived constantly in Konispol in the home of AIPIGEON. She has made infrequent and short trips to Tirane, Delvine and Gjinokaster. Attention is also directed to comments concerning Subject reported in SGAA 11239, KAPOK 2775, 14 August 1954.

Finance:

26. The cost of this particular mission is relatively small and will be charged to project OBSIDIOUS. Subsistence for the team is computed at \$1.65 per day. About \$150 of the estimate below is for case officer subsistence in the field. Agent salaries are not included.

| | |
|------------------------|----------------|
| Subsistence | \$400.00 |
| Equipment and supplies | 500.00 |
| Transportation | 400.00 |
| Gold | 300.00 |
| Exigencies | 300.00 |
| TOTAL | <u>1900.00</u> |

27. Approval by cable is requested to issue 30 gold pounds to the team.

Comment:

28. On 5 May, in an interview with RNDOLLAR, [] started the conversation by asking RNDOLLAR if he felt we had reason and sufficient justification to warrant sending him on another mission to contact AIPIGEON. He was asked to consider our failure to date and also told that we could see no sense in further risking his life or wasting our time for the sake of salvaging honor. RNDOLLAR replied that his feelings had not changed regarding the potential value of the operation. He had risked his life three times and was willing to do it again. The only thing that would change his mind would be information we might have that AIPIGEON was no longer in place.

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29. We are convinced of RNDOLLAR's sincerity and his confidence that AIPIGEON will produce and we consider them important factors in the decision to mount this operation.

[]

Attachment:

Identity 1 UNDER SEPARATE COVER

8/180
R20/nkr

27 May 1955

Distribution:

- 3 - Wash w/att UNDER SEPARATE COVER
- 1 - Vital Documents w/att UNDER SEPARATE COVER
- 1 - Chrono w/att
- 1 - XO w/att (ret)
- 2 - OBOPUS w/att (1 ret)

KAPOT

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SEPARATE COVER ATTACHMENT TO:

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31 MAY 1955

Identity 1 is Mine ^KPlaku

Removed from Projt

CS Classification: *discretionary*

UOB # *none* 63-697/18

Box: 7 Fold: #1

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DESTROYED

per CSN 41

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